

**What Is Claimed Is:**

1                   1. A method of upgrading a storage library, wherein the storage  
2 library has a hardware component operable to run at low and high operating levels,  
3 the hardware component being set to operate at the low operating level, the method  
4 comprising:  
5                   associating an upgrade module with the storage library, the upgrade  
6 module having permission instructions for the hardware component of the storage  
7 library to operate at the high operating level; and  
8                   enabling the hardware component of the storage library to operate  
9 at the high operating level in response to the upgrade module being associated with  
10 the storage library in order to upgrade the storage library.

1                   2. The method of claim 1 wherein:  
2                   associating an upgrade module with the storage library includes  
3 attaching an upgrade module to the storage library.

1                   3. The method of claim 1 further comprising:  
2                   associating an enabling mechanism with the storage library, the  
3 enabling mechanism containing permission instructions for the hardware  
4 component of the storage library to run at the low operating level, wherein the  
5 enabling mechanism updates the permission instructions for the hardware  
6 component to run at the high operating level upon the upgrade module being  
7 associated with the storage library.

1                   4. The method of claim 1 wherein:

00-058-TAP

2                   the hardware component is a storage array for storing media of the  
3                   storage library.

1                   5. The method of claim 1 wherein:  
2                   the hardware component is a set of media players for performing  
3                   operations on media of the storage library.

1                   6. The method of claim 1 wherein:  
2                   the hardware component is a robotic mechanism for manipulating  
3                   media of the storage library.

1                   7. The method of claim 1 wherein:  
2                   associating an upgrade module with the storage library includes  
3                   associating an EEPROM module with the storage library.

1                   8. The method of claim 1 wherein:  
2                   associating an upgrade module with the storage library includes  
3                   transferring permission instructions from the Internet to the storage library.

1                   9. A system for upgrading a storage library, wherein the storage  
2                   library has a hardware component operable to run at low and high operating levels,  
3                   the hardware component of the storage library being set to operate at the low  
4                   operating level, the system comprising:  
5                   an upgrade module having permission instructions for the hardware  
6                   component of the storage library to operate at the high operating level; and  
7                   an enabling mechanism for enabling the hardware component of the  
8                   storage library to operate at the high operating level in response to the upgrade

00-058-TAP

9 module being associated with the storage library in order to upgrade the storage  
10 library.

1 10. The system of claim 9 wherein:  
2 the enabling mechanism contains permission instructions for the  
3 hardware component of the storage library to run at the low operating level,  
4 wherein the security mechanism updates the permission instructions for the  
5 hardware component to run at the high operating level upon the upgrade module  
6 being associated with the storage library.

1 11. The storage library of claim 9 wherein:  
2 the hardware component is a storage array for storing media of the  
3 storage library.

1 12. The storage library of claim 9 wherein:  
2 the hardware component is a set of media players for performing  
3 operations on media of the storage library.

1 13. The storage library of claim 9 wherein:  
2 the hardware component is a robotic mechanism for manipulating  
3 media of the storage library.

1 14. The storage library of claim 9 wherein:  
2 the upgrade module is an EEPROM module.

1 15. The storage library of claim 9 wherein:  
2 the permission instructions are transferrable to the upgrade module  
3 via the Internet.

1                   16. A method of upgrading from a first storage library having a  
2 hardware component operable to run at a low operating level to a second storage  
3 library having the hardware component operable to run at a high operating level,  
4 wherein a base module is needed to be associated with a storage library in order  
5 to function, the method comprising:

6                   associating a base module from the first storage library with the  
7 second storage library, the base module having permission instructions for the  
8 hardware component to operate at the low operating level;

9                   prompting for an upgrade module to be associated with the second  
10 storage library in response to recognizing the permission instructions of the base  
11 module for the hardware component to operate at the low operating level, the  
12 upgrade module having permission instructions for the hardware component to  
13 operate at the high operating level;

14                   disassociating the base module from the second storage library;  
15                   associating the upgrade module with the second storage library; and  
16                   accepting the permission instructions of the upgrade module for the  
17 hardware component to operate at the high operating level.

1                   17. The method of claim 16 further comprising:  
2                   disabling the upgrade module;  
3                   prompting for the base module to be associated with the second  
4 storage library;  
5                   disassociating the upgrade module from the second storage library;  
6                   associating the base module with the second storage library;  
7                   writing the permission instructions of the upgrade module into the  
8 base module; and

00-058-TAP

9 enabling the hardware component to operate at the high operating  
10 level in response to the upgrade module being associated with the second storage  
11 library.

1 18. The method of claim 16 wherein:  
2 the hardware component is a storage array for storing media.

1 19. A method of upgrading a storage library, wherein the storage  
2 library has a hardware component operable to run at low and high operating levels,  
3 the hardware component being set to operate at the low operating level, the method  
4 comprising:  
5 associating a base module with the storage library, the base module  
6 having permission instructions for the hardware component of the storage library  
7 to operate at the low operating level, the base module further having permission  
8 instructions for enabling the storage library to function;  
9 disassociating the base module with the storage library;  
10 associating an upgrade module with the storage library, the upgrade  
11 module having permission instructions for the hardware component of the storage  
12 library to operate at the high operating level; and  
13 enabling the hardware component of the storage library to operate  
14 at the high operating level in response to the upgrade module being associated with  
15 the storage library in order to upgrade the storage library.

1 20. The method of claim 19 further comprising:  
2 disabling the upgrade module;  
3 disassociating the upgrade module from the second storage library;  
4 associating the base module with the second storage library; and

Year	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975	1976	1977	1978	1979	1980	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033	2034	2035	2036	2037	2038	2039	2040	2041	2042	2043	2044	2045	2046	2047	2048	2049	2050	2051	2052	2053	2054	2055	2056	2057	2058	2059	2060	2061	2062	2063	2064	2065	2066	2067	2068	2069	2070	2071	2072	2073	2074	2075	2076	2077	2078	2079	2080	2081	2082	2083	2084	2085	2086	2087	2088	2089	2090	2091	2092	2093	2094	2095	2096	2097	2098	2099	2100
1970	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975	1976	1977	1978	1979	1980	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033	2034	2035	2036	2037	2038	2039	2040	2041	2042	2043	2044	2045	2046	2047	2048	2049	2050	2051	2052	2053	2054	2055	2056	2057	2058	2059	2060	2061	2062	2063	2064	2065	2066	2067	2068	2069	2070	2071	2072	2073	2074	2075	2076	2077	2078	2079	2080	2081	2082	2083	2084	2085	2086	2087	2088	2089	2090	2091	2092	2093	2094	2095	2096	2097	2098	2099	2100	